

The District 3 Slate

October 2001

County Supervisor Pam Slater

"Preparation is important, but it's also critical that we buck up, stay strong and not panic. Our country is going to win."

-- Supervisor Pam Slater



County Supervisor
Pam Slater

Dear friend:

It is a sobering indication of how much our world has changed. Disaster drills and preparations that were simply considered prudent before September 11th have now taken on an incredible sense of urgency.

Yet in spite of the shock of the terrorist attacks, one can see an amazing spirit and resolve that is evident in San Diegans and all Americans.

The former "patriotism" that was tied to partisan squabbles has been left by the wayside. We now show a patriotism that comes from the nation's bedrock, that is united in the face of a common threat.

During these difficult times, I want to encourage my constituents in the Third District and all San Diego residents not to give in to fear, but to shop, eat, work and play as normal.

If we refuse to be terrorized, then that will spell the first defeat for the terrorists themselves.

Pam Slater

County's response to Sept. 11 attacks: We will continue to prepare for terrorism but not panic

In the aftermath of the September 11th attacks on America, the County of San Diego has stepped up its preparation for any acts of domestic terrorism.

County Supervisors have directed county staff to assess how well the County is prepared to respond to any incident, and staff is expected to report back soon.

"Thankfully, however, the County has taken steps during the last few years to prepare," Supervisor Pam Slater said.

"Working together with law enforcement agencies, fire agencies and emergency medical services, we've recently conducted several, large-scale emergency drills," Slater added.

A chemical warfare terrorism exercise was conducted in August 2000 that simulated an attack at Qualcomm Stadium, and a bioterrorism exercise, held in September 2000, simulated an unannounced release of plague at a mall.

Other actions the County has taken have been to establish the Metropolitan Medical Strike Team, improve the Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team, and to create a regional Terrorism Working Group, Slater noted.

Recent cases of anthrax exposure in the country have alarmed many in San Diego, but county health officials emphasize that there is no indication that anthrax is present in San Diego, that no one has been diagnosed with the bacteria and no specimen has tested positive for anthrax.

"We do recognize that we need to be on heightened alert at this time, so we have sent our laboratory specialists in the detection of anthrax to area hospitals and laboratories," Slater said.

"We also have sent a packet to the county's 5,000 doctors

on what they should know, as the front-line medical providers, to detect and report anthrax or other illnesses caused by bioterrorism agents."

The county's Office of Disaster Preparedness also set up this month a Dispatch Assistance Line to help area dispatch agencies deal with calls related to possible anthrax exposure from a frightened public.

Citizens need to remain strong during these times, Slater added.

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Slater assists Solana Beach

Solana Beach residents should soon see improvements to the city's trails and along Highway 101, thanks to County Supervisor Pam Slater.

Slater this month presented Mayor Tom Campbell and the City Council with a check for \$50,000 to help pay for the improvements.

"Because of the County's excellent financial health, we are able to make these funds available to communities and local cities, like Solana Beach," Slater said.

The funds will be used to widen the city's Coastal Rail Trail, which is a hiking and bicycle trail that runs along the railroad alignment in the city, and also to provide landscaping and traffic median improvements to the city's Highway 101 corridor.

Both projects will be completed by June 2002.

City officials also thanked Slater for providing funds last year to buy the patriotic banners now on display on city streetlights along Highway 101.

The staff of Supervisor Pam Slater

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Animal shelter design starts

The new North County Animal Shelter is one more step closer to becoming reality, thanks to actions by the County Board of Supervisors.

County Supervisors last month approved the location of the site for the new shelter, and they also approved a contract to prepare documents for the shelter's design and construction.

"It's exciting to see this project's progress," Slater said. "We want to make the new shelter one of the best in the state, so that people are encouraged to adopt animals from the shelter."

The new shelter will be located at the current location off of Palomar Airport Road in Carlsbad.

The site is convenient for the public, its central location reduces response times for animal control officers, and it already has the necessary permits, Slater noted.

County staff estimates that the new shelter will cost \$6.6 million. About \$5.1 million already has been set aside, which includes \$1.25 million in county funds that Slater obtained and \$350,000 from the 4S Ranch home development.

Supervisor Slater's travels in the Third District

Time away from office allows her to visit local communities

San Pasqual Academy:

Supervisor Pam Slater, in white at left, joins Supervisor Greg Cox, Judge James Milliken, Supervisor Ron Roberts, Supervisor Dianne Jacob, Supervisor Bill Horn and state Sen. Dede Alpert in opening the new San Pasqual Academy for foster children.



Remarks: Slater shares a laugh with Roberta Arredondo from the academy.

Giving aid:

Supervisor Slater joined Escondido firefighters Scott Barratt, at right, and Rich Stuka in support of the trip across America.



Relief fund: Escondido firefighters, from left, Eric Souza, Chris Sovay, Mike Bertrand, Mike O'Connor and Mike Diaz thanked Supervisor Slater for covering the cost of a rental RV that the firefighters drove to New York City. The firefighters raised \$197,000 along the drive to provide relief for the wives and families who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center attack.



Renewal: Supervisor Slater renewed her county library card during a recent county bookmobile stop at the County Administration Center. The bookmobile stops many places throughout the County.

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